

Jessica has proven that the key to success is hard work, determination, and innovation. As a contestant in the National business Plan Competition, she developed a business plan for a company that would serve the needs of the community and the needs of her family. After watching her mother hunt endlessly for day care facilities for a family friend, Jessica notices a market niche and developed a plan to fill this void.

Every family has different day care needs. And finding a facility that meets these needs can be a full time job in itself. Jessica hopes to capitalize on this growing need by proposing a company to locate day care facilities for families. Her proposal also includes an aggressive marketing campaign teaming her firm with local newspaper and Internet advertisers.

Mr. Speaker, our nation was founded by confident individuals following their hearts and making their dreams a reality. That tradition is alive with America's youth today. Jessica Ferretti developed an innovative business plan that will meet her financial needs and also those of her community. For her innovative spirit and her desire to benefit her community, I ask my colleagues to join me here today in saluting the commitment and dedication of Jessica Ferretti.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. MILDRED BOND

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 19, 1998

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proudly recognize Mrs. Mildred Bond on her nomination for the Teacher of Excellence Award in the Decatur Public Schools, District 61. As a former teacher, I understand the challenges and rewards associated with this most noble profession and I have the deepest admiration for Mildred's accomplishments. She is a strong proponent of education as demonstrated by her dedicated work within the school system, with the students, and among her community and church. Her efforts to ensure the future of our nation by educating our children are an inspiration and model for the entire country.

Mildred Bond has been an educator for 35 years with a majority of them being at Roosevelt Middle School in Decatur. She served

as the mathematics department chair at Roosevelt for ten years, and is active in district task forces. Mildred takes a genuine interest in her students both inside and outside the classroom. Through her work in Student Council, The Alternative II program for troubled youths, the School Store, and cheerleading she encourages her students to participate and to succeed. Mildred also reaches out to her community and is active in the Trinity CME Church as the director of Christian Education and Sunday school teacher. She also devotes countless hours as an advisor for Peer Counselors for Future Collegians.

Mr. Speaker, we have spent a great deal of time in this Congress discussing the importance of education. I have worked toward the goals of reducing class size and modernizing aging school buildings, for at the heart of this effort is the premise that the education of our children is the most important investment we can make for our country. It is imperative that we recognize and celebrate our educators and constantly strive to improve the quality of education in this nation. Mildred has made education her life's work, which has earned her the respect of parents and colleagues and made her beloved by students. She has received other outstanding educator awards for her achievements and dedication to teaching, such as the Golden Apple Award from Springfield and the Talented Tenth Award as a role model for African American youth. Mildred Bond is a source of motivation and inspiration to those around her. I commend her commitment to education and young people. It has been an honor to represent her in the 105th Congress.

BUST CREATED TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE BILL EMERSON

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 19, 1998

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, on June 24, 1998, Members of Congress, friends, colleagues, and family came together to witness the unveiling of a bust created in loving memory of the late Representative Bill Emerson of Missouri. The event was attended by over 300 people who crowded into the Capitol's Statuary Hall to be part of this tribute.

This extremely generous effort was made possible due to the dedication and loyalty of the many friends of Bill Emerson. However, one individual stands out as giving his unlimited personal time and determination to make this project a reality. Former staff member and close friend Bill Coffield set up the Bill Emerson Memorial Foundation in 1997 with its sole charter being to build a lasting memorial to the late Congressman. Once established, Mr. Coffield, with the help of others, set out to solicit private donations and corporate contributions to fund the creation of the bust. Thanks in large part to the significant generosity of The Doe Run Company, Sabreliner Corporation, The Pillsbury Company, TRW Inc., Hill International, Inc., SBC Communications, American Sugar Alliance, ASARCO, National Mining Association, Noranda Aluminum, Inc., The Jefferson Group, Inc., and Sharp and Lankford, the Foundation had the financial support to move forward in commissioning a sculptor. Renowned sculptor Michael Curtis of Alexandria, Virginia, was commissioned and began by reviewing numerous photographs spanning several years of Bill's life.

I was honored to take part in this event, which began with an invocation by the House Chaplain, followed by personal tributes from several Members including the Speaker of the House NEWT GINGRICH, Senator PAT ROBERTS and other distinguished colleagues from the House including Reps. KANJORSKI and SKELTON, and Bill's widow, Rep. JO ANN EMERSON, Mr. Curtis unveiled the bust for all to see.

The finished product is truly a work of art. A remarkable and life-like bust of our colleague and friend will now reside at the entrance of the Page School in the Library of Congress. The location could not be more fitting—appropriately named Emerson Hall—since Bill's political career started in the 1950's as a page himself, and he was past chairman of the House Page Board. We can all be proud knowing that the likeness of our beloved late friend, Bill Emerson, will forever smile upon the enthusiastic young men and women who come to Washington as pages—like Bill did—to invest in themselves and of themselves in the service of their country. I know in my heart that Bill will watch over these fine young men and women with the love and respect he shared for his family, friends, colleagues and the proud people of southern Missouri he so capably represented.